

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending.

Claims 1, 11-13 and 18-22 are rejected under 35 USC §102(a) as being anticipated by either Wakebe or Faris. Claims 2-5 and 10 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being an obvious variation by combining the teachings of Wakebe with Mueller, while claims 2-7 and 9 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being an obvious variation by combining the teachings of Faris with Mueller.

The status of remaining claims 8 and 14-17 was not indicated in the Office Action and the claims are assumed allowable if placed in independent form incorporating limitations of the claims from which they depend.

No amendments to the claims are presented here as applicants believe the claims include features that are not disclosed or suggested in the Faris, Wakebe, and Mueller patents. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all claims in view of the analysis and remarks noted below.

Claims 1, 11-13 and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Faris et al. (5,680,233). Applicants traverse this rejection on the basis that Faris does not teach or fairly suggest elements within the rejected claims.

Faris discloses an overhead projector incorporating, as shown in FIG. 10A of Faris, a lamp 95, a transmissive LCD screen 10", and a mirror 105. The transmissive LCD screen is placed atop the projector glass just as a transparent foil would be and is capable of forming a dynamic image to be projected. The mirror is slidable along vertical support member 100 but is otherwise fixed at "about 45 degrees to the projection lens 104." (col. 27, lines 34-35) Contrary to what the Examiner states, the Faris system does not appear to include "steering means for directing the light pattern in a desired one of a plurality of directions" since the mirror does not tilt and therefore the light would always be projected at right angles to the LCD. In fact, it would not be obvious or even advisable to include such steering means since the pattern (e.g. text) is intended to be projected onto a screen for viewing during presentations, and is not intended for such uses as disco environments where the image is to be moved around. Accordingly, rejection of the claims using Faris under §102(b) would be inappropriate because Faris does not teach or suggest elements set forth in the claims.

Claims 1, 11-13 and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wakebe (4,956,655). Applicants traverse this rejection on the basis that Wakebe does not teach or fairly suggest elements within the rejected claims.

Wakebe discloses a slide projector 10 with light source 12 and an optical system including a stationary mirror 16 disposed parallel to a mounting plate 17 at 45 degrees with respect to the horizontal plate (col. 3, lines 25-41), and two tilting mirrors 20, 24 actuated by vertical and horizontal scanner galvanometers 18, 22 for directing the slide image in horizontal and vertical directions relative to a projection screen 26. The slide projection does not teach a "dynamic patterning means" as set forth in claim 1 of the application since the images are limited to the slides within the projector. As stated on page 3, lines 1-4 of the application, "dynamic in this context refers generally to a mechanically stationary transmissive element having a plurality of subdisplay elements (e.g. pixels) under computer control to present changeable patterns within the transmissive element." Slides and slide projectors do not fulfill this definition and therefore Wakebe cannot be used to anticipate the claims. Accordingly, rejection of the claims using Wakebe under §102(b) would be inappropriate because Wakebe does not teach or suggest elements set forth in the claims.

Claims 2-5 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wakebe in view of Mueller et al. (6,016,038). Claims 2-5, 6, 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Faris et al. in view of Mueller et al. Applicants traverse these rejections on the grounds that, *inter alia*, it would not be obvious to combine the color light source of Mueller with the projector apparatuses of Faris and/or Wakebe.

Mueller discloses using LEDs of various colors as a light source. However, it would not be obvious to use a colored light source (other than white) with either the Wakebe or Faris systems. In Wakebe, the image is a slide which already includes color information thereon. If the slide is a picture, colored backlighting would degrade the quality of the image on the slide and result in an imperfect projection. All slide projectors use white light. As for Faris, a similar argument exists because all overhead projectors use a white lamp. Additionally, the embodiment shown in FIG. 12A discloses the panels used as a backlight for slides which again runs into the same problems as Wakebe. Therefore, it would not be obvious to combine the LEDs of Mueller into a color-control array because Wakebe and Faris would only require, and in fact only effectively operate with, white light.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-22 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

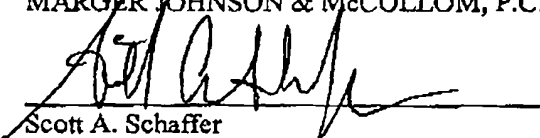


20575

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Respectfully submitted,

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.


Scott A. Schaffer
Reg. No. 38,610

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM
1030 SW Morrison Street
Portland, OR 97205
(503) 222-3613